

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and allowance of the present application based on the following remarks are respectfully requested. Claims 1-2, 5-8, 11-13, 15-17, 19 and 24 have been amended. Claim 18 has been canceled. Claims 25-36 have been added. Support for the amendments may be found throughout the specification, for example at the originally filed claims, and at paragraphs [0015] to [0027]. No new matter has been added. Upon entry of the above amendments, claims 1-17 and 19-36, as amended, will be pending.

Support for claim 27 may be found in original claim 2, which included a typographical error. Original claim 2 included reference to the composition including 60 to 75 wt.% alkylbenzene, and 45 to 25 wt.% polyol ester. This represents a typographical error and should have been 40 to 25 wt.% in order to be consistent with the previous range identified for the alkyl benzene. Accordingly, Applicant's have re-written this portion of claim 2 as new claim 27 to clear up any confusion associated with this typographical error. No new matter has been added.

Claim 18 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112 as indefinite, and under 35 U.S.C. §101 as an improper claim. Applicants have canceled claim 18 and respectfully submit that this rejection is now moot.

Claims 1-24 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by, or under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as obvious over U.S. Patent 6,251,300 to Takigawa. The amendments to the claims are believed to address this rejections. Specifically Takigawa does not teach or suggest compositions that include an alkyl benzene having a molecular distribution in which at least 40% of the molecular weight fraction is greater than 350 and at least 25% by weight of a polyol ester. Takigawa discusses that "it is permissible for the alkyl benzene oil . . . to contain less than 40% by weight . . . of alkyl benzenes having a molecular weight of less than 200 or more than 350." (emphasis added - column 4, lines 12-16). For at least this reason, Takigawa does not teach or suggest the present invention. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection.

Therefore, all objections and rejections having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in a condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Should any issues remain unresolved, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney for Applicants at the telephone number indicated below in order to expeditiously resolve any remaining issues.

Respectfully submitted,

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